# IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

In re:	) Chapter 11
JOANN INC., et al., <sup>1</sup>	) Case No. 25-10068 (CTG)
Debtors.	) (Jointly Administered)
	Hearing Date: May 28, 2025 at 1:00 p.m.
	) Objections Due: May 21, 2025at 4:00 p.m.
	)

MOTION OF DEBTORS FOR
ENTRY OF AN ORDER (I) CONDITIONALLY
APPROVING THE ADEQUACY OF THE DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT, (II) SCHEDULING A PLAN CONFIRMATION AND
FINAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT APPROVAL HEARING AND SETTING
DATES AND DEADLINES, (III) APPROVING THE SOLICITATION PACKAGE
AND NOTICE PROCEDURES, (IV) APPROVING THE FORM OF BALLOT AND
NOTICES IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, AND (V) GRANTING RELATED RELIEF

The above-captioned debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the "<u>Debtors</u>") state as follows in support of this motion:<sup>2</sup>

The Debtors in these chapter 11 cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number, are: JOANN Inc. (5540); Needle Holdings LLC (3814); Jo-Ann Stores, LLC (0629); Creative Tech Solutions LLC (6734); Creativebug, LLC (3208); WeaveUp, Inc. (5633); JAS Aviation, LLC (9570); joann.com, LLC (1594); JOANN Ditto Holdings Inc. (9652); Dittopatterns LLC (0452); JOANN Holdings 1, LLC (9030); JOANN Holdings 2, LLC (6408); and Jo-Ann Stores Support Center, Inc. (5027). The Debtors' mailing address is 5555 Darrow Road, Hudson, Ohio 44236.

A detailed description of the Debtors and their business, including the facts and circumstances giving rise to the Debtors' chapter 11 cases, is set forth in the *Declaration of Michael Prendergast, Interim Chief Executive Officer, in Support of Chapter 11 Petitions and First Day Motions* [Docket No. 5] (the "First Day Declaration"). Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the First Day Declaration or the *First Amended Joint Chapter 11 Plan of JOANN Inc. and its Debtor Affiliates* (the "Plan"), as applicable.

#### **Relief Requested**

- 1. The Debtors seek entry of an order, substantially in the form attached hereto as **Exhibit A** (the "Order"), granting the following relief and such other relief as is just and proper:
  - (a) conditional approval of the *Disclosure Statement for the Joint Chapter 11 Plan of JOANN Inc. and Its Debtor Affiliates*, substantially in the form attached to the Order as Exhibit 1 (as amended, supplemented, or otherwise modified from time to time, the "Disclosure Statement") as containing "adequate information" pursuant to section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code;
  - (b) approval of procedures for: (i) soliciting, receiving, and tabulating votes to accept or reject the Plan; (ii) voting to accept or reject the Plan; and (iii) filing objections to the Plan, substantially in the form attached to the Order as Exhibit 2 (the "Solicitation and Voting Procedures");
  - (c) approval of the form of ballot (the "<u>Ballot</u>"), substantially in the form attached to the Order as <u>Exhibit 3</u>;
  - (d) approval of the (i) form of notice applicable to (a) Holders of Claims that are Unimpaired under the Plan and who are, pursuant to section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code, conclusively presumed to accept the Plan, (b) Holders of Claims that are Impaired under the Plan and who are, pursuant to section 1126(g) of the Bankruptcy Code, conclusively deemed to reject the Plan, (c) Holders of Claims or Interests that are subject to a pending objection by the Debtors and who are not entitled to vote the disputed portion of such Claim, and (d) Holders of General Unsecured Claims that are not being solicited (each a "Notice of Non-Voting Status" and collectively, the "Notices of Non-Voting Status") and (ii) the opt-in form (the "Opt-In Form" and together with the Notices of Non-Voting Status, the "Notices of Non-Voting Status and Opt-In Form"), substantially in the forms attached to the Order as Exhibit 4A, Exhibit 4B, Exhibit 4C, Exhibit 4D, respectively;
  - (e) approval of the solicitation materials and documents included in the solicitation package (the "Solicitation Package") that will be sent to, among others, Holders of Claims entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan, in compliance with rules 3017(d) and 2002(b) of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules");
  - (f) approval of the form of letter that the Debtors will send to Holders of Claims entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan recommending that such parties to vote in favor of the Plan, substantially in the form attached to the Order as Exhibit 5 (the "Cover Letter");

- (g) approval of the form and manner of notice of hearing to be held by the Court to consider the Disclosure Statement and Confirmation of the Plan (the "Combined Hearing" and, the notice thereof, the "Combined Hearing Notice") pursuant to section 1129 of the Bankruptcy Code, substantially in the form attached to the Order as Exhibit 6;
- (h) approval of the notice related to the filing of the Plan Supplement, substantially in the form attached to the Order as <u>Exhibit 7</u> (the "<u>Plan Supplement Notice</u>");
- (i) approval of the form of notice to counterparties to Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases that will be assumed or assumed and assigned pursuant to the Plan, substantially in the forms attached to the Order as <a href="Exhibit 8">Exhibit 8</a> (the "Assumption Notice"); and
- (j) establishing the following dates and deadlines with respect to Confirmation, subject to modification as necessary (the "Confirmation Timeline").

Event	Date	Description
Disclosure Statement Objection Deadline	May 21, 2025	Deadline by which objections to the Disclosure Statement must be filed and served so as to be actually received by the appropriate notice parties (the "Disclosure Statement Objection Deadline")
Voting Record Date	May 23, 2025	Date for determining (i) which Holders of Claims in the Voting Class, as defined herein, are entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan and (ii) whether Claims have been properly assigned or transferred to an assignee under Bankruptcy Rule 3001(e) such that the assignee or transferee, as applicable, can vote to accept or reject the Plan (the "Voting Record Date")
Hearing on Conditional Approval of the Disclosure Statement	May 28, 2025 at 1:00 p.m., prevailing Eastern Time	Date and time of the disclosure statement hearing (the "Conditional Disclosure Statement Hearing"), subject to the Court's availability
Publication Deadline	Within two (2) business days following entry of the Order (or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter).	Date by which the Debtors will submit the Combined Hearing Notice in a format modified for publication (the "Publication Notice")
Solicitation Deadline	Within two (2) business days following entry of the Order (or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter).	Date for distributing the Solicitation Package, including the Ballot, to Holders of Claims and Interests entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan (the "Solicitation Deadline")
Plan Supplement Filing Deadline	June 20, 2025	Date by which the Debtors will File the initial Plan Supplement

Event	Date	Description
Voting Deadline, Opt-In Deadline	June 30, 2025 at 4:00 p.m., prevailing Eastern Time	Deadline by which <i>all</i> Ballots and Opt-In Forms must be properly executed, completed, and delivered so that they are <i>actually received</i> (the " <u>Voting Deadline</u> ") by Kroll Restructuring Administration LLC (the " <u>Notice and Claims Agent</u> ")
Plan Objection Deadline	June 27, 2025 at 4:00 p.m., prevailing Eastern Time	Deadline by which objections to the Plan and final approval of the Disclosure Statement must be filed with the Court and served so as to be actually received by the appropriate notice parties (the " <u>Plan Objection Deadline</u> ")
Voting Report Filing Deadline	July 7, 2025	Date by which the report tabulating the voting on the Plan (the "Voting Report") shall be Filed
Combined Hearing	July 10, 2025 at 10:00 a.m., prevailing Eastern Time	Date and time of the Combined Hearing subject to the Court's availability

# **Jurisdiction and Venue**

- 2. The United States District Court for the District of Delaware has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334, which was referred to the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware (the "Court") under 28 U.S.C. § 157 and the *Amended Standing Order of Reference* from the United States District Court for the District of Delaware, dated February 29, 2012. The Debtors confirm their consent, pursuant to rule 9013-1(f) of the Local Rules of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware (the "Local Rules"), to the entry of a final order by the Court in connection with this motion to the extent that it is later determined that the Court, absent consent of the parties, cannot enter final orders or judgments in connection herewith consistent with Article III of the United States Constitution.
  - 3. Venue is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409.
- 4. The statutory bases for the relief requested herein are sections 105, 1125, 1126, and 1128 of title 11 of the United States Code, 11 U.S.C. §§ 101–1532 (the "Bankruptcy Code"), rules 2002, 3016, 3017, 3018, 3020 and 9006 of the Bankruptcy Rules, and Local Rules 2002-1, 3017-1, 3017-2, and 9006-1.

# **Background**

# I. General Case Background.

5. JOANN Inc., together with its Debtor and non-Debtor affiliates (collectively, "JOANN" or the "Company"), filed a voluntary petition on January 15, 2025 (the "Petition Date") for relief under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. The Debtors are operating their business and managing their property as debtors in possession pursuant to sections 1107(a) and 1108 of the Bankruptcy Code. On January 16, 2025, the Court entered an order [Docket No. 103] authorizing the procedural consolidation and joint administration of these chapter 11 cases pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 1015(b) and Local Rule 1015-1. On January 28, 2025, the United States Trustee for the District of Delaware (the "U.S. Trustee") appointed an official committee of unsecured creditors [Docket No. 198] (the "Committee"). No request for the appointment of a trustee or examiner has been made in these chapter 11 cases.

## **II.** The Notice Procedures.

6. In an effort to manage the Debtors' liquidity concerns and to efficiently implement the wind down contemplated by the Plan, the Debtors and their advisors are proposing a noticing plan that is robust and cost-effective. Specifically, the Debtors will provide notice to parties in interest, including parties entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan, in the following ways: (a) serving and noticing the Combined Hearing Notice on parties in interest, including parties entitled to vote; (b) posting the Plan and Disclosure Statement in a conspicuous manner on the public website of the Notice and Claims Agent; and (c) publishing the Publication Notice (as defined below) in *The New York Times* or another similar nationally circulated news publication. The Debtors believe that the Publication Notice provides sufficient notice of the Combined Hearing pending final approval of the Disclosure Statement, the Combined Hearing,

and the Objection Deadline to entities who will not otherwise receive notice as provided herein and through the Solicitation and Voting Procedures.

7. The Debtors propose that, within two (2) business days after entry of the Order (or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter), the Debtors will cause the Notice and Claims Agent to serve the Combined Hearing Notice on, among other parties, the U.S. Trustee, all Holders of filed and scheduled claims, parties listed on Schedule G of each Debtors' schedules and statements, and all parties on the 2002 List (as defined below). To provide another layer of notice to parties in interest, the Debtors will also cause the Notice and Claims Agent to update the website maintained for these chapter 11 cases at <a href="https://cases.ra.kroll.com/Joann2025">https://cases.ra.kroll.com/Joann2025</a> to provide instructions for obtaining copies of the Plan and Disclosure Statement and to advise parties of important dates and deadlines related to the Plan and Disclosure Statement, including the Voting Record Date, the Voting Deadline, the Opt-In Deadline, the Objection Deadline, and the Combined Hearing.

# III. The Solicitation and Voting Procedures.

8. The Debtors propose that they will commence solicitation of votes on the Plan from Holders of Claims in Class 3 in accordance with the Solicitation and Voting Procedures and the Bankruptcy Code. More specifically, within two (2) business days after entry of the Order (or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter), the Debtors will cause the Notice and Claims Agent to distribute the Solicitation Package by email, where available in accordance with the *Final Order* (1) Authorizing the Debtors to (A) Serve Certain Parties in Interest by Email, (B) Approve the Form and Manner of Service of the Notice of Commencement, (C) Redact or Withhold Certain Confidential Information of Customers, and (D) Redact Certain Personally Identifiable Information of Individuals, and (II) Granting Related Relief [Docket No. 342] (the "Creditor Matrix Order"), and otherwise by notice sent via first-class U.S. mail containing a link to access

the Solicitation Package on the Debtors' restructuring website (<a href="https://cases.ra.kroll.com/Joann2025">https://cases.ra.kroll.com/Joann2025</a>), to Holders of Claims in Class 3. The Disclosure Statement and Ballot will direct Holders of Claims in Class 3 to follow the instructions contained in the Ballot (and described in the Disclosure Statement) to complete and submit their Ballot to cast a vote to accept or reject the Plan. The Disclosure Statement and Ballot will expressly provide that a Holder of a Claim seeking to vote on the Plan needs to submit its Ballot so that it is actually received by the Notice and Claims Agent on or before 4:00 p.m., prevailing Eastern Time, on June 30, 2025 to be counted.

- 9. Certain other Holders of Claims and Interests will not be provided the Solicitation Package because such Holders are (a) Unimpaired under, and conclusively presumed to accept, the Plan pursuant to section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code, (b) Impaired, and either (i) are not entitled to receive a distribution on account of such Claims under the Plan, and, therefore, deemed to have rejected the Plan pursuant to section 1126(g) of the Bankruptcy Code, (ii) are among the Holders of Claims from whom the Debtors are not soliciting votes, or (c) are subject to a pending objection by the Debtors (the "Disputed Claims") and are not entitled to vote the disputed portion and are conclusively presumed to reject the Plan.
  - 10. The Debtors' procedures and standard assumptions for tabulating Ballots include:

#### **Votes Not Counted**

- Any Ballot that is illegible or contains insufficient information to permit the identification of the Holder of the Claim or Interest;
- Any Ballot transmitted by means other than as specifically set forth in the Ballots;
- Any Ballot cast by an entity that is not entitled to vote on the Plan:
- Any Ballot cast for a Claim listed in the Debtors' schedules as contingent, unliquidated, or disputed for which the applicable bar date has passed and no proof of claim was filed;

- Any Ballot cast for a Claim that is subject to an objection pending as of the Voting Record Date (unless temporarily allowed in accordance with the Order);
- Any Ballot that was sent to the Debtors, the Debtors' agents/representatives (other than the Notice and Claims Agent), or the Debtors' financial or legal advisors instead of the Notice and Claims Agent;
- Any Ballot that is unsigned; and
- Any Ballot that is not clearly marked to either accept or reject the Plan or it is marked both to accept and reject the Plan.

## **No Vote Splitting**

• Holders must vote all of their Claims within a particular Class either to accept or reject the Plan and may not split any votes. Accordingly, a Ballot that partially rejects and partially accepts the Plan will not be counted.

#### IV. Plan Overview.

11. The Plan classifies Holders of Claims or Interests into the following Classes of Claims and Interests for all purposes, including with respect to voting on the Plan, pursuant to section 1126 of the Bankruptcy Code:<sup>3</sup>

Class	Claim/Interest	Status	Voting Rights
1	Other Secured Claims	Unimpaired	Not Entitled to Vote (Presumed to Accept)
2	Other Priority Claims	Unimpaired	Not Entitled to Vote (Presumed to Accept)
3	Prepetition Term Loan Claims	Impaired	Entitled to Vote
4	General Unsecured Claims	Impaired	Not Being Solicited <sup>4</sup>
5	Intercompany Claims	Unimpaired / Impaired	Not Entitled to Vote (Presumed to Accept or Deemed to Reject)
6	Intercompany Interests	Unimpaired / Impaired	Not Entitled to Vote (Presumed to Accept or Deemed to Reject)
7	Interests in JOANN	Impaired	Not Entitled to Vote (Deemed to Reject)

The Plan constitutes a separate chapter 11 plan for each Debtor. The classifications set forth in Classes 1–8 shall be deemed to apply to each Debtor, as applicable. The Debtors reserve the right to modify the Plan in accordance with the terms thereof, including the right to withdraw the Plan as to an individual Debtor at any time before the Confirmation Date.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Subject to entry of the Order.

8	Section 510(b) Claims	Impaired	Not Entitled to Vote (Deemed to Reject)
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# 12. The Plan provides for the following distributions to be made to the Debtors' creditors and equity holders:

Class	Claim/Interest	Treatment of Claim/Equity Interest
Class 1	Other Secured Claims	Except to the extent that a Holder of an Allowed Other Secured Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, in exchange for such Allowed Other Secured Claim, on or as soon as reasonably practicable after the Effective Date, each Holder of an Allowed Other Secured Claim shall receive from the Debtors or the Wind-Down Debtors, at the option of the Debtors or Wind-Down Debtors, as applicable:  (i) payment in full in Cash of such Holder's Allowed Other Secured Claim;  (ii) the collateral securing such Holder's Allowed Other Secured Claim;  (iii) Reinstatement of such Holder's Allowed Other Secured Claim; or  (iv) such other treatment rendering such Holder's Allowed Other Secured
		Claim Unimpaired.
Class 2	Other Priority Claims	Except to the extent that a Holder of an Allowed Other Priority Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, in exchange for such Allowed Other Priority Claim, on or as soon as reasonably practicable after the later to occur of (i) the Effective Date, and (ii) the date such Claim becomes Allowed (or as otherwise set forth in the Plan), each Holder of an Allowed Other Priority Claim will either be satisfied in full, in Cash, by the Debtors or Wind-Down Debtors, or otherwise receive treatment consistent with the provisions of section 1129(a)(9) of the Bankruptcy Code.
Class 3	Prepetition Term Loan Claims	Except to the extent that a Holder of an Allowed Prepetition Term Loan Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, pursuant to the Plan, and subject to the terms of the Committee Settlement set forth in the Plan, each Holder of Prepetition Term Loan Claims shall be entitled to their Pro Rata share of the Wind-Down Proceeds, if any, up to the Allowed amount of such Prepetition Term Loan Claims less the Credit Bid Amount.
Class 4	General Unsecured Claims	Except to the extent that a Holder of a General Unsecured Claim or Prepetition Term Loan Deficiency Claim agrees to less favorable treatment, each Holder of an Allowed General Unsecured Claim and Prepetition Term Loan Deficiency Claim shall receive:  (i) Holders of Allowed General Unsecured Claims, excluding Holders of Allowed Prepetition Term Loan Deficiency Claims, shall receive their Pro Rate share of the Class A GUC Trust Interests; and  (ii) Holders of Allowed Prepetition Term Loan Deficiency Claims shall receive their Pro Rate share of the Class B GUC Trust Interests.

Class	Claim/Interest	Treatment of Claim/Equity Interest
Class 5	Intercompany Claims	Allowed Intercompany Claims, to the extent not assumed pursuant to the terms of the Approval Order, shall, at the election of the applicable Debtors or Wind-Down Debtors, be (a) Reinstated, (b) converted to equity, (c) otherwise set off, settled, distributed, contributed, cancelled, or released without any distribution on account of such Intercompany Claims, or (d) otherwise addressed at the option of the Debtors or Wind-Down Debtors, in each case, in accordance with the Wind-Down Transactions Memorandum.
Class 6	Intercompany Interests	Allowed Intercompany Interests shall, at the election of the Debtors or Wind-Down Debtors, be (a) Reinstated, (b) set off, settled, addressed, distributed, contributed, merged, cancelled, or released without any distribution on account of such Intercompany Interests, or (c) otherwise addressed at the option of the Debtors or Wind-Down Debtors, in each case, in accordance with the Wind-Down Transactions Memorandum.
Class 7	Interests in JOANN	Interests in JOANN shall be cancelled, released, and extinguished as of the Effective Date, and will be of no further force or effect, and Holders of Interests in JOANN will not receive any distribution on account of such Interests.
Class 8	Section 510(b) Claims	Allowed Section 510(b) Claims, if any, shall be cancelled, released, and extinguished as of the Effective Date, and will be of no further force or effect, and Holders of Allowed Section 510(b) Claims will not receive any distribution on account of such Allowed Section 510(b) Claims.

13. Based on the foregoing (and as discussed in greater detail herein), the Debtors are proposing to solicit votes to accept or reject the Plan from Holders of Claims in Class 3 (the "<u>Voting Class</u>").<sup>5</sup> The Debtors are not proposing to solicit votes from Holders of Claims or Interests in Classes 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8 (each, a "<u>Non-Voting Class</u>" and, collectively, the "<u>Non-Voting Classes</u>").

# **Basis for Relief**

- I. The Court Should Conditionally Approve the Disclosure Statement.
  - A. The Standard for Approval of the Disclosure Statement.
- 14. Pursuant to section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code, the proponent of a proposed chapter 11 plan must provide "adequate information" regarding that plan to holders of impaired

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> If the Debtors amend the Plan prior to the Conditional Disclosure Statement Hearing such that the Voting Class is no longer Impaired or the Debtors conclusively determine that the Voting Class will not receive a recovery under the Plan, the Debtors do not intend to solicit votes from Holders of Claims or Interests in such Class, and instead intend to include such Class as a Non-Voting Class.

claims and interests entitled to vote on the plan. Specifically, section 1125(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code provides, in relevant part, as follows:

- "[A]dequate information" means information of a kind, and in sufficient detail, as far as is reasonably practicable in light of the nature and history of the debtor and the condition of the debtor's books and records, including a discussion of the potential material Federal tax consequences of the plan to the debtor, any successor to the debtor, and a hypothetical investor typical of the holders of claims or interests in the case, that would enable such a hypothetical investor of the relevant class to make an informed judgment about the plan.
- 15. The primary purpose of a disclosure statement is to provide all material information that creditors and interest holders affected by a proposed plan need to make an informed decision regarding whether or not to vote for the plan. See, e.g., Century Glove, Inc. v. First Am. Bank of N.Y., 860 F.2d 94, 100 (3d Cir. 1988) ("[Section] 1125 seeks to guarantee a minimum amount of information to the creditor asked for its vote."); In re Monnier Bros., 755 F.2d 1336, 1342 (8th Cir. 1985) ("The primary purpose of a disclosure statement is to give the creditors the information they need to decide whether to accept the plan."); In re Phoenix Petrol. Co., 278 B.R. 385, 392 (Bankr. E.D. Pa. 2001) ("[T]he general purpose of the disclosure statement is to provide 'adequate information' to enable 'impaired' classes of creditors and interest holders to make an informed judgment about the proposed plan and determine whether to vote in favor of or against that plan."); In re Unichem Corp., 72 B.R. 95, 97 (Bankr. N.D. III. 1987) ("The primary purpose of a disclosure statement is to provide all material information which creditors and equity security holders affected by the plan need in order to make an intelligent decision whether to vote for or against the plan."). Congress intended that such informed judgments would be needed to both negotiate the terms of, and vote on, a plan of reorganization. See Century Glove, Inc., 860 F.2d at 100.
- 16. "Adequate information" is a flexible standard, based on the facts and circumstances of each case. 11 U.S.C. § 1125(a)(1) (stating that "adequate information' means information of

a kind, and in sufficient detail, as far as is reasonably practicable in light of the nature and history of the debtor and the condition of the debtor's books and records"); see also Oneida Motor Freight, Inc. v. United Jersey Bank, 848 F.2d 414, 417 (3d Cir. 1988) ("From the legislative history of § 1125 we discern that adequate information will be determined by the facts and circumstances of each case."); First Am. Bank of N.Y. v. Century Glove, Inc., 81 B.R. 274, 279 (D. Del. 1988) (noting that adequacy of disclosure for a particular debtor will be determined based on how much information is available from outside sources); S. Rep. No. 95-989, at 121 (1978), as reprinted in 1978 U.S.C.C.A.N. 5787, 5907 ("The information required will necessarily be governed by the circumstances of the case.").

"adequate information" for the purpose of satisfying section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code resides within the broad discretion of the court. *See, e.g., In re River Vill. Assocs.*, 181 B.R. 795, 804 (E.D. Pa. 1995) ("[T]he Bankruptcy Court is thus given substantial discretion in considering the adequacy of a disclosure statement."); *In re Phoenix Petrol., Co.*, 278 B.R. at 393 (same). Accordingly, the determination of whether a disclosure statement contains adequate information must be made on a case-by-case basis, focusing on the unique facts and circumstances of each case. *See In re PC Liquidation Corp.*, 383 B.R. 856, 865 (E.D.N.Y. 2008) ("The standard for disclosure is, thus, flexible and what constitutes 'adequate information' in any particular situation is determined on a case-by-case basis . . . with the determination being largely within the discretion of the bankruptcy court.") (internal citations omitted); *In re Lisanti Foods, Inc.*, 329 B.R. 491, 507 (Bankr. D.N.J. 2005) ("The information required will necessarily be governed by the circumstances of the case.") (internal citations omitted).

- 18. In making a determination as to whether a disclosure statement contains adequate information as required by section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code, courts typically look for disclosures related to topics such as:
  - a. the events that led to the filing of a bankruptcy petition;
  - b. the relationship of the debtor with its affiliates;
  - c. a description of the available assets and their value;
  - d. the debtor's anticipated future performance;
  - e. the source of information stated in the disclosure statement;
  - f. the debtor's condition while in chapter 11;
  - g. claims asserted against the debtor;
  - h. the estimated return to creditors under a chapter 7 liquidation of the debtor;
  - i. the future management of the debtor;
  - j. the chapter 11 plan or a summary thereof;
  - k. financial information, valuations, and projections relevant to a creditor's decision to accept or reject the chapter 11 plan;
  - 1. information relevant to the risks posed to creditors under the plan;
  - m. the actual or projected realizable value from recovery of preferential or otherwise avoidable transfers;
  - n. litigation likely to arise in a nonbankruptcy context; and
  - o. tax attributes of the debtor.

See In re U.S. Brass Corp., 194 B.R. 420, 424–25 (Bankr. E.D. Tex. 1996); see also In re Scioto Valley Mortg. Co., 88 B.R. 168, 170–71 (Bankr. S.D. Ohio 1988) (listing the factors courts have considered in determining the adequacy of information provided in a disclosure statement); In re Metrocraft Pub. Servs., Inc., 39 B.R. 567, 568 (Bankr. N.D. Ga. 1984) (same). Disclosure regarding all topics is not necessary in every case. See In re U.S. Brass Corp., 194 B.R. at 424;

see also In re Phoenix Petrol., 278 B.R. at 393 ("[C]ertain categories of information which may be necessary in one case may be omitted in another; no one list of categories will apply in every case.").

- B. The Disclosure Statement Contains Adequate Information in Accordance with Section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 19. The Disclosure Statement provides "adequate information" to allow Holders of Claims in the Voting Class to make informed decisions about whether to vote to accept or reject the Plan. Specifically, the Disclosure Statement contains a number of categories of information that courts consider "adequate information," including:

Category	Description	Location in Disclosure Statement
Debtors' Corporate History, Structure, and Business Overview	An overview of the Debtors' corporate history, business operations, organizational structure, and capital structure.	Article IV
Events Leading to the Chapter 11 Filings	An overview of the Debtors' out-of-court restructuring efforts in response to liquidity constraints.	Article V
Material Developments and Anticipated Events of the Chapter 11 Cases	A summary of the course of events in these chapter 11 cases, including the sale process.	Article VI
Risk Factors	Certain risks associated with forward-looking statements and an overall disclaimer as to the information provided by and set forth in the Disclosure Statement.	Article VII
Solicitation and Voting Procedures	A description of the procedures for soliciting votes to accept or reject the Plan and voting on the Plan.	Article VIII
Confirmation of the Plan	Confirmation procedures and statutory requirements for Confirmation and Consummation of the Plan.	Article IX
Certain United States Federal Income Tax Consequences of the Plan	A description of certain U.S. federal income tax law consequences of the Plan.	Article X
Recommendation	A recommendation by the Debtors that Holders of Claims in the Voting Class should vote to accept the Plan.	Article XI

20. Based on the foregoing, the Debtors respectfully submit that the Disclosure Statement complies with all aspects of section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code and addresses the

information set forth above in a manner that provides adequate information to Holders of Claims entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan. Accordingly, the Debtors submit that the Disclosure Statement contains "adequate information" and, therefore, should be conditionally approved for solicitation purposes.

- C. The Disclosure Statement Provides Sufficient Notice of Injunction, Release, and Exculpation Provisions in the Plan.
- 21. Bankruptcy Rule 3016(c) requires that, if a plan provides for an injunction against conduct not otherwise enjoined under the Bankruptcy Code, the plan and disclosure statement must describe, in specific and conspicuous language, the acts to be enjoined and the entities subject to the injunction.
- 22. Article VIII.E of the Plan and Article III.A.4.(e) of the Disclosure Statement describe in detail the entities subject to an injunction under the Plan and the acts that they are enjoined from pursuing. Further, the language in Article VIII.E of the Plan and Article III.A.4.(e) of the Disclosure Statement is in bold font, making it conspicuous to anyone who reads it. Moreover, Article VIII.B and Article VIII.C of the Plan and Article III.A.4.(b) and Article III.A.4.(c) of the Disclosure Statement describe in detail the entities subject to or providing a release under the Plan as well as the Claims and Causes of Action so released, and Article VIII.D of the Plan and Article III.A.4.(d) of the Disclosure Statement describe in detail the entities entitled to exculpation under the Plan. Each of the foregoing sections is set forth, conspicuously, in bold font. Accordingly, the Debtors respectfully submit that the Disclosure Statement complies with Bankruptcy Rule 3016(c) by conspicuously describing the conduct and parties enjoined, released, or exculpated by the Plan.

# II. The Court Should Approve the Procedures for Confirming the Plan.

# A. The Combined Hearing Date.

- 23. Section 1128 of the Bankruptcy Code provides that "[a]fter notice, the court shall hold a hearing on confirmation of a plan" and provides that parties in interest can object to confirmation. 11 U.S.C. § 1128. Bankruptcy Rule 3017(a) also requires that the court "hold a hearing on a disclosure statement filed under [Bankruptcy] Rule 3016(b) and any objection or modification to it. The hearing must be held on at least 28 days' notice under [Bankruptcy] Rule 2002(b) to: the debtor; creditors; equity security holders; and other parties in interest." Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3017(a). Additionally, Bankruptcy Rule 3017(c) provides that, on or before approval of a disclosure statement, a court shall fix a time for the hearing on confirmation of a plan. Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3017(c). Further, Bankruptcy Rule 2002(b) provides that notice shall be given to "the debtor, trustee, all creditors, and all indenture trustees at least 28 days' notice by mail of: (1) the time to file an objection and the time of the hearing to: (A) consider approving a disclosure statement; or (B) determine under § 1125(f) whether a plan includes adequate information to make a separate disclosure statement unnecessary." Fed. R. Bankr. P. 2002(b).
- 24. In accordance with Bankruptcy Rules 2002 and 3017 and section 1128 of the Bankruptcy Code, the Debtors request that the Bankruptcy Court establish <u>July 10, 2025</u> as the Combined Hearing Date. The Debtors further request that the Combined Hearing may be continued from time to time by the Bankruptcy Court or the Debtors without further notice to parties in interest other than announcement of such adjournment in open court and/or filing a notice of adjournment with the Bankruptcy Court and serving such notice on the 2002 List.

# B. The Court Should Approve the Procedures for Filing Objections to the Plan.

25. The Debtors request that the Court direct the manner in which parties in interest may object to confirmation of the Plan. Pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 3020(b)(1), objections to

confirmation of a plan must be filed and served "within the time set by the court." Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3020(b)(1). The Combined Hearing Notice will require that objections to confirmation of the Plan or requests for modifications to the Plan, if any, must:

- a. be in writing;
- b. conform to the Bankruptcy Rules, the Local Rules, and any orders of the Court;
- c. state, with particularity, the legal and factual basis for the objection and, if practicable, a proposed modification to the Plan (or related materials) that would resolve such objection; and
- d. be filed with the Court (contemporaneously with a proof of service) upon the applicable notice parties so to be actually received on or before the Plan Objection Deadline of June 27, 2025 at 4:00 p.m., prevailing Eastern Time.
- 26. The Debtors believe that the proposed process will afford the Court, the Debtors, and other parties in interest reasonable time to consider any objections and proposed modifications prior to the Combined Hearing.
- III. The Court Should Approve the Solicitation and Voting Procedures, Including the Voting and Tabulation Procedures, the Solicitation Package, and the Timeline for Soliciting Votes on the Plan.
  - A. The Standard for Approval of Voting and Tabulation Procedures.
  - 27. Section 1126(c) of the Bankruptcy Code provides that:

A class of claims has accepted a plan if such plan has been accepted by creditors, other than any entity designated under subsection (e) of this section, that hold at least two-thirds in amount and more than one-half in number of the allowed claims of such class held by creditors, other than any entity designated under subsection (e) of this section, that have accepted or rejected such plan.

28. Additionally, Bankruptcy Rule 3018(c) provides, in part, that "[a]n acceptance or rejection of a plan must: (A) be in writing, (B) identify the plan or plans; (C) be signed by the creditor or equity security holder-or an authorized agent, and (D) conform to the Form 314." Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3018(c). Consistent with these requirements, the Debtors propose to use the

Solicitation and Voting Procedures, which procedures include specific voting and tabulation requirements and processes (the "Voting and Tabulation Procedures"), as follows.

# **B.** Completion of Ballots.

29. To facilitate the process of tabulating all votes received, the Debtors propose that a Ballot be counted in determining the acceptance or rejection of the Plan only if it satisfies certain criteria. Specifically, the Voting and Tabulation Procedures provide that the Debtors not count a Ballot if, among other things: (1) it is illegible or contains insufficient information to permit the identification of the Holder of the Claim or Interest; (2) it was transmitted by means other than as specifically set forth in the ballots; (3) it was cast by an entity that is not entitled to vote on the Plan; (4) it was cast for a Claim listed in the Debtors' schedules as contingent, unliquidated, or disputed for which the applicable bar date has passed and no proof of claim was filed; (5) it was cast for a Claim that is subject to an objection pending as of the Voting Record Date (unless temporarily allowed in accordance with the Order); (6) it was sent to the Debtors, the Debtors' agents/representatives (other than the Notice and Claims Agent), or the Debtors' financial or legal advisors instead of the Notice and Claims Agent; (7) it is unsigned; or (8) it is not clearly marked to either accept or reject the Plan or it is marked both to accept and reject the Plan. Further, the Debtors, subject to a contrary order of the Court, may waive any defects or irregularities as to any particular Ballot at any time, either before or after the close of voting, and any such waivers shall be documented in the Voting Report.

# C. General Ballot Tabulation and Voting Procedures.

30. The proposed Voting and Tabulation Procedures set forth specific criteria with respect to the general tabulation of Ballots and voting procedures applicable to Holders of Claims and Interests. The Debtors believe that the proposed Voting and Tabulation Procedures will facilitate the Plan Confirmation process. Specifically, the procedures will clarify any obligations

of Holders of Claims and Interests entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan and will create a straightforward process by which the Debtors can determine whether they have satisfied the numerosity requirements of section 1126(c) of the Bankruptcy Code. Accordingly, the Debtors submit that the Voting and Tabulation Procedures are in the best interests of their estates, Holders of Claims and Interests, and other parties in interest, and that good cause supports the relief requested herein.

31. The Notice and Claims Agent will retain the Ballots and electronic copies of the same for a period of one year after the Effective Date, whereupon, the Notice and Claims Agent is authorized to destroy and/or otherwise dispose of all paper copies of Ballots; printed solicitation materials including unused copies of the Solicitation Package; and all solicitation-related correspondence (including undeliverable mail), in each case unless otherwise directed by the Debtors or the Clerk of the Court in writing within such one (1) year period or unless otherwise ordered by the Court.

## D. The Court Should Approve the Form of Ballot.

- 32. In accordance with Bankruptcy Rule 3018(c), the Debtors have prepared and customized the Ballot. Although based on Official Form No. 314, the Ballot has been modified to (a) address the particular circumstances of these chapter 11 cases, and (b) include certain additional information that is relevant and appropriate for Claims in the Voting Class. The proposed Ballot for the Voting Class is annexed as Exhibit 3 to the Order. The Debtors respectfully submit that the form of Ballot complies with Bankruptcy Rule 3018(c) and, therefore, should be approved.
  - E. The Court Should Approve the Form and Distribution of the Solicitation Package and Cover Letter to Parties Entitled to Vote on the Plan.
- 33. Bankruptcy Rule 3017(d) specifies the materials to be distributed to holders of allowed claims or equity interests upon approval of a disclosure statement, including the plan or a

court-approved summary of the plan, the disclosure statement approved by the court, and notice of the time within which acceptances and rejections of the plan may be filed.

- 34. In accordance with this requirement, the Debtors propose to send the Solicitation Package to provide Holders of Claims in the Voting Class with the information they need to be able to make informed decisions with respect to how to vote on the Plan. Specifically, on or before the Solicitation Deadline, the Debtors will cause the Solicitation Package to be distributed by email, where permitted pursuant to the Creditor Matrix Order, and otherwise by notice sent via first-class U.S. mail containing a link to access the Solicitation Package on the Debtors' restructuring website (<a href="https://cases.ra.kroll.com/Joann2025">https://cases.ra.kroll.com/Joann2025</a>), to those Holders of Claims in the Voting Class. The Solicitation Package will include the following materials:
  - a. the Ballot, together with detailed voting instructions;
  - b. the Cover Letter, including instructions to obtain access, free of charge, to the Plan, the Disclosure Statement, and the Order via <a href="https://cases.ra.kroll.com/Joann2025">https://cases.ra.kroll.com/Joann2025</a>;
  - c. the Combined Hearing Notice; and
  - d. any other materials as the Court may direct.
- 35. Additionally, the Debtors will provide (a) the complete Solicitation Package (excluding the Ballot) to the U.S. Trustee, and (b) the Order and the Combined Hearing Notice to all parties required to be notified under Bankruptcy Rule 2002 and Local Rule 2002-1 (the "2002 List") as of the Voting Record Date.
- 36. Any party that would prefer to receive materials in paper format may contact the Notice and Claims Agent and request paper copies of the materials (to be provided at the Debtors' expense) by (a) visiting the Debtors' restructuring website at <a href="https://cases.ra.kroll.com/Joann2025">https://cases.ra.kroll.com/Joann2025</a>, (b) emailing <a href="mailto:Joann2025Info@ra.kroll.com">Joann2025Info@ra.kroll.com</a> (with "Joann Solicitation Inquiry" in the subject line), or (c) calling the Debtors' Notice and Claims Agent at (844) 712-2239 (U.S./Canada, toll-free) or

- +1 (646) 863-7121 (International, toll). Parties in interest can also obtain these documents and any other pleadings filed in these chapter 11 cases (for a fee) via PACER at https://pacer.uscourts.gov. The Debtors will not distribute the Solicitation Package or other solicitation materials to Holders of Claims and Interests that have already been paid in full during these chapter 11 cases or that are expected to be paid in full pursuant to an order entered by the Court in these chapter 11 cases. The Debtors are also not required to distribute the Solicitation Package or any other solicitation materials to Holders of Intercompany Claims and Interests.
- 37. The Debtors respectfully request that the Notice and Claims Agent be authorized (to the extent not authorized by another order of the Court) to assist the Debtors in (a) distributing the Solicitation Package, (b) receiving, tabulating, and reporting on Ballots cast to accept or reject the Plan by Holders of Claims against the Debtors, (c) responding to inquiries from Holders of Claims and other parties in interest relating to the Disclosure Statement, the Plan, the Ballot, the Solicitation Package, and all other related documents and matters related thereto, including the procedures and requirements for voting to accept or reject the Plan and for objecting to the Plan, (d) soliciting votes on the Plan, and (e) if necessary, contacting creditors regarding the Plan. Furthermore, the Notice and Claims Agent is authorized to contact parties who submit incomplete or otherwise deficient Ballots to make a reasonable effort to cure such deficiencies; provided that neither the Debtors nor Notice and Claims Agent are required to contact such parties to provide notification of defects or irregularities with respect to completion or delivery of Ballots, nor shall any of them incur any liability for failure to provide such notification.
- 38. In addition to accepting hard copy Ballots and Opt-In Forms via first class mail, overnight courier, and hand delivery, the Debtors request authorization to accept Ballots and Opt-In Forms via electronic, online transmissions, solely through a customized online balloting portal

maintained by the Notice and Claims Agent on the Debtors' case website (the "E-Ballot Portal"). Parties entitled to vote or opt-in may cast an electronic Ballot or Opt-In Form and electronically sign and submit a Ballot or Opt-In Form instantly by utilizing the E-Ballot Portal (which allows a Holder to submit an electronic signature). Instructions for electronic, online transmission of Ballots and Opt-In Forms through the E-Ballot Portal are set forth on the forms of the Ballot and Opt-In Form. The encrypted ballot data and audit trail created by such electronic submission shall become part of the record of any Ballot or Opt-In Form submitted in this manner and the creditor's electronic signature will be deemed to be immediately legally valid and effective. The E-Ballot Portal shall be the sole method by which a creditor may submit a Ballot or Opt-In Form electronically. Ballots and Opt-In Forms submitted by email, facsimile, or other electronic means shall be deemed invalid. For the avoidance of doubt, holders of Interests in JOANN who hold their equity positions through a bank, broker, or other financial institution (a "Nominee") "in street name" at The Depository Trust Company ("DTC") cannot submit their Opt-In Form through the E-Ballot Portal, and must click on the Public Equity Opt-Out link on the left-hand navigation panel of the Notice and Claims Agent's website to submit an electronic copy of their Opt-In Form.

39. All votes to accept or reject the Plan must be cast by using the appropriate Ballot. All Ballots must be properly executed, completed, and delivered according to their applicable voting instructions by: (a) first class mail; (b) overnight courier; (c) personal delivery; or (d) via E-Ballot Portal, so that the Ballots are actually received by the Notice and Claims Agent no later than the Voting Deadline at the return address set forth in the applicable Ballot.

## F. The Court Should Approve the Combined Hearing Notice.

40. The Debtors request that the Court approve the Combined Hearing Notice, substantially in the form attached hereto as <u>Exhibit 6</u> to the Order. In accordance with Bankruptcy Rules 2002 and 3017(d), the Combined Hearing Notice provides (a) instructions as to how to view

or obtain copies of the Disclosure Statement (including the Plan and the other exhibits attached thereto), the Order, and all other materials in the Solicitation Package (excluding the Ballot) from the Notice and Claims Agent or the Court's website via PACER; (b) notice of the Voting Deadline; (c) notice of the date by which the Debtors will file the Plan Supplement; (d) notice of the Plan Objection Deadline; and (e) notice of the Combined Hearing and information related thereto.

- 41. The Combined Hearing Notice will be made available on the Debtors' restructuring website at: <a href="https://cases.ra.kroll.com/Joann2025">https://cases.ra.kroll.com/Joann2025</a>. In addition, the Debtors propose to serve the Combined Hearing Notice, within two (2) business days following entry of the Order (or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter), upon the U.S. Trustee, all Holders of filed and scheduled claims, parties listed on Schedule G of each Debtors' schedules and statements, and all parties on the 2002 List.
- 42. Bankruptcy Rule 2002(I) permits the court to "order notice by publication if it finds that notice by mail is impracticable or that it is desirable to supplement the notice." Therefore, in addition to the foregoing distribution of the Combined Hearing Notice, the Debtors will publish the Publication Notice, within two (2) business days after entry of the Order (or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter), on one occasion in *The New York Times* or another similar nationally circulated news publication. The Debtors believe that the Publication Notice will provide sufficient notice of, among other things, the entry of the Order, the Voting Deadline, the Plan Objection Deadline, and the Combined Hearing to parties who did not otherwise receive notice thereof. Accordingly, service and publication of the Combined Hearing Notice comports with the requirements of Bankruptcy Rule 2002 and should be approved.

## **G.** The Court Should Approve the Plan Supplement Notice.

43. The Plan defines "Plan Supplement" to mean the compilation of documents and forms of documents, schedules, and exhibits to the Plan that the Debtors will file (a) seven (7) days

prior to the earlier of (i) the Voting Deadline or (ii) the deadline to object to Confirmation of the Plan or (b) such later date as may be approved by the Bankruptcy Court and posted to the Debtors' restructuring website at: <a href="https://cases.ra.kroll.com/Joann2025">https://cases.ra.kroll.com/Joann2025</a>. See Plan at Art. I. The Plan Supplement will include, among other materials, the following materials in connection with Confirmation: (a) Schedule of Assumed and Assigned Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases, (b) Schedule of Retained Causes of Action; (c) the Wind-Down Transactions Memorandum; (d) the identity of the Plan Administrator and the GUC Trustee; (e) the GUC Trust Agreement; (f) the 503(b)(9) Reconciliation Procedures; and (g) additional documents Filed with the Bankruptcy Court prior to the Effective Date as amendments to the Plan Supplement.

44. To ensure that all Holders of Claims and Interests receive notice of the Debtors' filing of the Plan Supplement, the Debtors respectfully submit that the Plan Supplement Notice should be approved.

# H. The Court Should Approve the Form of Notices to Non-Voting Classes and Opt-In Form.

- 45. As discussed above, the Non-Voting Classes will <u>not</u> receive the Solicitation Package, and instead, the Debtors propose that such parties receive a Notice of Non-Voting Status and Opt-In Form, substantially in the form attached to the Order as <u>Exhibit 4A, 4B, or 4D</u>, as applicable, in lieu of the Solicitation Package. In addition, the Debtors propose that any Holders of Disputed Claims also will <u>not</u> receive the Solicitation Package and will instead receive a Notice of Non-Voting Status and Opt-In Form, substantially in the form attached to the Order as <u>Exhibit 4C</u>, which notice shall be served together with such objection.
- 46. The Debtors request authorization to distribute Notices of Non-Voting Status and the Opt-In Form to Holders of Claims or Interests, as applicable, in the Non-Voting Classes, by email, where permitted pursuant to the Creditor Matrix Order, or by providing instructions for

accessing these documents through the Debtors' restructuring website <a href="https://cases.ra.kroll.com/Joann2025">https://cases.ra.kroll.com/Joann2025</a>, and if a Holder requests a hard copy from the Notice and Claims Agent, the Claims and Notice Agent shall provide a hard copy within three (3) business days of receipt of such request.

- 47. Each of the Notices of Non-Voting Status and Opt-In Form will include, among other things: (a) instructions as to how to view or obtain copies of the Disclosure Statement (including the Plan and the other exhibits thereto), the Order, and all other materials in the Solicitation Package (excluding the Ballot) from the Notice and Claims Agent free of charge or the Court's website via PACER; (b) notice to recipients of their status as Holders or potential Holders of Claims or Interests in Non-Voting Classes; (c) a disclosure regarding the settlement, release, exculpation, and injunction language set forth in <a href="Article VIII">Article VIII</a> of the Plan; (d) the Opt-In Form by which Holders can elect to opt in to the Third-Party Release set forth in <a href="Article VIII">Article VIII</a> of the Plan; (d) notice of the Objection Deadline; (e) notice of the Combined Hearing; and (f) information related thereto.
- 48. The Debtors are authorized to (a) provide the Nominees with sufficient copies of the Combined Hearing Notice, Non-Voting Status Notice, and Opt-In Form to forward to the Beneficial Equity Holders and (b) require the Nominees to forward the Combined Hearing Notice or copies thereof, together with the Non-Voting Status Notice and Opt-In Form, to the Beneficial Equity Holders within five (5) business days of the receipt by such Nominee of the Combined Hearing Notice, Non-Voting Status Notice, and Opt-In Form. To the extent Nominees incur out-of-pocket expenses in connection with distribution of the Combined Hearing Notice, Non-Voting Status Notice, and Opt-In Form, the Debtors are authorized to reimburse such entities for their reasonable and customary expenses incurred in this regard. Furthermore, if it is a Nominee's

customary and accepted practice to forward the Combined Hearing Notice, Non-Voting Status Notice, and Opt-In Form to Beneficial Equity Holders by electronic mail or other customary means of communication, the Nominee may employ that method of delivery, in lieu of, or in addition to, sending paper copies of the Combined Hearing Notice, Non-Voting Status Notice, and Opt-In Form to its Beneficial Equity Holder clients.

- 49. The Debtors believe that the distribution of Notices of Non-Voting Status and Opt-In Form in lieu of the Solicitation Package satisfies the requirements of Bankruptcy Rule 3017(d). Accordingly, unless the Court orders otherwise, the Debtors do not intend to distribute the Solicitation Package to Holders of Claims in the Non-Voting Classes or to holders of Disputed Claims.
- Package or other solicitation materials to the following: (a) Holders of Claims that have already been paid in full during these chapter 11 cases or that are authorized to be paid in full pursuant to an order entered by this Court; (b) any party to whom a notice of the hearing regarding the Court's conditional approval of the Disclosure Statement was sent, but was subsequently returned as undeliverable; or (c) Holders of Class 5 Intercompany Claims and Class 6 Intercompany Interests. Furthermore, the Debtors request a waiver of any obligation for themselves or the Notice and Claims Agent to conduct any additional research for updated addresses based on undeliverable solicitation materials (including undeliverable Ballots and Opt-In Forms), and that they not be required to resend Solicitation Packages or other solicitation materials, including the Combined Hearing Notice and Notices of Non-Voting Status, that are returned as undeliverable unless the Debtors are provided with accurate addresses for such parties prior to the Voting Record Date.

# I. The Court Should Approve the Notices to Contract and Lease Counterparties.

- 51. Article V of the Plan provides that, except as otherwise provided in the Plan or otherwise agreed to by the Debtors and the counterparty to an Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease, each of the Debtors' Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases will be deemed automatically rejected pursuant to sections 365 and 1123 of the Bankruptcy Code as of the Plan Effective Date, unless such Executory Contracts or Unexpired Leases: (1) are specifically described in the Plan as to be assumed in connection with Confirmation of the Plan, are identified on a Cure Notice, are identified on the Schedule of Assumed Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases, or were assumed as part of the Sale Transaction; (2) have been previously assumed or rejected by the Debtors pursuant to any other Bankruptcy Court order; (3) are the subject of a Filed motion to assume, assume and assign, or reject such Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease (or of a Filed objection with respect thereto) that is pending on the Confirmation Date; (4) are a contract, release, or other agreement or document entered into in connection with the Plan; or (5) are an Insurance Policy.
- 52. To ensure that counterparties to Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases receive notice of assumption of their Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease (and any corresponding Cure Costs) pursuant to the Plan, the Debtors will distribute by email, where available, and otherwise by first-class U.S. mail, an Assumption Notice, as appropriate, within the time periods specified in the Plan. If certain, but not all, of a contract counterparty's Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases are assumed pursuant to the Plan, the Confirmation Order will be a determination that such counterparty's Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases that are being rejected pursuant to the Plan are severable agreements that are not integrated with those Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases that are being assumed pursuant to the Plan. Parties seeking to contest this finding with respect to their Executory Contracts or Unexpired Leases must file a timely objection

by the Plan Objection Deadline on the grounds that their agreements are integrated and not severable. For the avoidance of doubt, on the Effective Date, each Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease not previously assumed, assumed and assigned, or rejected shall be deemed automatically rejected, other than those that: (1) are specifically described in the Plan as to be assumed in connection with Confirmation of the Plan, are identified on a Cure Notice, are identified on the Schedule of Assumed Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases, or were assumed as part of the Sale Transaction; (2) have been previously assumed or rejected by the Debtors pursuant to any other Bankruptcy Court order; (3) are the subject of a Filed motion to assume, assume and assign, or reject such Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease (or of a Filed objection with respect thereto) that is pending on the Confirmation Date; (4) are a contract, release, or other agreement or document entered into in connection with the Plan; or (5) are an Insurance Policy.

# IV. The Court Should Approve the Voting Record Date, Solicitation Deadline, and Voting Deadline.

- 53. Bankruptcy Rule 3017(d) provides that, for the purposes of soliciting votes in connection with the confirmation of a plan, "creditors' and 'equity security holders' include record holders of stock, bonds, debentures, notes, and other securities on the date the order approving the disclosure statement is entered—or another date the court sets for cause and after notice and a hearing." Bankruptcy Rule 3018(a) contains a similar provision regarding determination of the record date for voting purposes.
- 54. The Debtors request that the Court exercise its authority under Bankruptcy Rules 3017(d) and 3018(a) to establish May 23, 2025, as the Voting Record Date. Moreover, the Debtors propose that, with respect to any transferred Claim, the transferee shall be entitled to receive the Solicitation Package and, if the Holder of such Claim is entitled to vote with respect to

the Plan, cast a Ballot on account of such Claim only if (a) all actions necessary to effectuate the transfer of the Claim pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 3001(e) have been completed by the Voting Record Date, or (b) the transferee files by the Voting Record Date (i) the documentation required by Bankruptcy Rule 3001(e) to evidence the transfer and (ii) a sworn statement of the transferor supporting the validity of the transfer. In the event a Claim is transferred after the Voting Record Date, the transferee of such Claim shall be bound by any vote on the Plan made by the Holder of such Claim as of the Voting Record Date.

- 55. With respect to parties seeking to file a motion under Bankruptcy Rule 3018(a) to temporarily allow a Claim or Interest solely for purposes of voting to accept or reject the Plan, the Debtors request that the Court establish as the deadline by which a party must file such a motion the date that is ten (10) days from the later of (a) the distribution of the Combined Hearing Notice and (b) the filing of an objection to such Claim or Interest. The Debtors further request that the Debtors and other parties in interest shall have until ten (10) days prior to the Voting Deadline to file objections to any motions filed under Bankruptcy Rule 3018(a).
- 56. The Debtors request that, after the Debtors distribute the Solicitation Package to Holders of Claims and Interests entitled to vote on the Plan by the Solicitation Deadline, the Court require that all Holders of Claims and Interests entitled to vote on the Plan complete, execute, and return their Ballots (in accordance with the instructions on the Ballots) so that they are actually received by the Notice and Claims Agent on or before the Voting Deadline. Similarly, Holders of Claims or Interests who wish to opt in to the Third-Party Release must complete and submit the Opt-In Form so that it is actually received by the Notice and Claims Agent on or before the Opt-In Deadline.

57. The foregoing timing and materials will afford Holders of Claims and Interests entitled to vote on the Plan thirty-one (31) days within which to review and analyze such materials and subsequently make an informed decision as to whether to vote to accept or reject the Plan before the Voting Deadline consistent with the requirements of the applicable Bankruptcy Rules and Local Rules. See Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3017(d) (after approval of a disclosure statement, the debtor must transmit the plan, the approved disclosure statement, a notice of the time within which acceptances and rejections of such plan may be filed, and any other information that the court may direct to certain holders of claims); see also Del. Bankr. L.R. 3017-1(a) (following the filing of a disclosure statement, the plan proponent must provide notice of hearing and objection dates in accordance with Bankruptcy Rule 3017); Fed. R. Bankr. P. 2002(b) ("[T]he clerk or the court's designee must give the debtor, trustee, all creditors, and all indenture trustees at least 28 days' notice by mail of: (1) the time to file an objection and the time of the hearing to . . . consider approving a disclosure statement; or . . . whether a plan includes adequate information to make a separate disclosure statement unnecessary."). The Debtors believe that parties in interest will have adequate time to make an informed decision before the Voting Deadline. Accordingly, the Debtors request that the Court approve the form of and the Debtors' proposed procedures for distributing the Solicitation Package to the Holders of Claims in the Voting Class and the deadline for Holders of Claims and Interests to vote to accept or reject the Plan and/or return Opt-In Forms, as applicable.

## **Non-Substantive Modifications**

58. The Debtors request authorization to make non-substantive changes to the Disclosure Statement, notice of the Conditional Disclosure Statement Hearing, Plan, Combined Hearing Notice, Solicitation Package, Notices of Non-Voting Status and Opt-In Form, Ballot, Publication Notice, Cover Letter, Solicitation and Voting Procedures, Plan Supplement Notice,

Assumption Notice, Voting and Tabulation Procedures, and related documents after the Order is entered without further order of the Court, including changes to correct typographical and grammatical errors, if any, and to make conforming changes to the Disclosure Statement, the Plan, and any other materials in the Solicitation Package before distribution.

# **Reservation of Rights**

59. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, nothing contained in this motion or any actions taken pursuant to any order granting the relief requested by this motion (including any payment made in accordance with any such order), is intended as or shall be construed or deemed to be: (a) an implication or admission as to the amount of, basis for, or validity of any particular claim against the Debtors under the Bankruptcy Code or other applicable non-bankruptcy law; (b) a waiver of the Debtors' or any other party in interest's rights to dispute any particular claim on any grounds; (c) a promise or requirement to pay any particular claim; (d) an implication, admission, or finding that any particular claim is an administrative expense claim, other priority claim, or otherwise of a type specified or defined in this motion or any order granting the relief requested by this motion; (e) a request or authorization to assume, adopt, or reject any agreement, contract, or lease pursuant to section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code; (f) an admission as to the validity, priority, enforceability, or perfection of any lien on, security interest in, or other encumbrance on property of the Debtors' estates; (g) a waiver or limitation of the Debtors' or any other party in interest's claims, causes of action, or other rights under the Bankruptcy Code or any other applicable law; (h) an approval, assumption, adoption, or rejection of any agreement, contract, lease, program, or policy under section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code; (i) a concession by the Debtors that any liens (contractual, common law, statutory, or otherwise) that may be satisfied pursuant to the relief requested in this motion are valid, and the rights of all parties in interest are expressly reserved to contest the extent, validity, perfection, or seek avoidance of, all such liens; (j) a waiver of the obligation of any party in interest to file a proof of claim; or (k) otherwise affecting the Debtors' rights under section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code to assume or reject any executory contract or unexpired lease.

## Notice

60. The Debtors will provide notice of this motion to the following parties or their respective counsel: (a) U.S. Trustee; (b) the Committee; (c) counsel to the Prepetition Term Loan Agent; (d) counsel to the Prepetition Term Loan Ad Hoc Group; (e) the creditors listed on the Debtors' consolidated list of thirty (30) creditors holding the largest unsecured claims; (f) the United States Attorney for the District of Delaware; (g) the Internal Revenue Service; (h) the state attorneys general for states in which the Debtors conduct business; and (i) any party that is entitled to notice pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 2002 (collectively, the "Notice Parties"). The Debtors submit that, in light of the nature of the relief requested, no other or further notice need be given.

# No Prior Request

61. No prior request for the relief sought in this motion has been made to this or any other court.

[Remainder of page intentionally left blank]

WHEREFORE, the Debtors request entry of the Order, substantially in the form attached hereto as **Exhibit A**, (a) granting the relief requested herein and (b) granting such other relief as the Court deems appropriate under the circumstances.

Dated: May 5, 2025 Wilmington, Delaware

# /s/ Patrick J. Reilley

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